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TRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Confiscation by Soviets of
 Agricultural Machinery

DIST. ~~17~~ June 1947

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1. In mid-April 1947 the Soviet authorities decided to confiscate a portion of the machinery of the Landwirtschaftliche Maschinenfabrik Hofherr-Schranitz AG and hold it ready for delivery to the USSR.
2. Since the output of this factory is considered of prime importance to Austrian agriculture, the Council of Ministers took up this question, and Chancellor Figl had a meeting with General Kurasov, who promised to investigate the matter.
3. On 26 April 1947, however, the Soviets confiscated the entire April production of Hofherr-Schranitz, including the following:
 - 25 threshing machines
 - 350 potato diggers
 - 10 rollers (Ackerwalzen)
 - 150 beet cutters
 - 60 grist mills
 - 500 corn huskers (Maisrebler).
4. The Austrian Government was allotted only 15 threshing machines out of old stock.

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